

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

International Patent Application  
No. PCT/NZ2004/000216

PCT/DO/EO/US

International Filing Date: September 13, 2004

Attorney Docket: KELL3013/JEK

Applicant: Robert James KELLY et al.

For: COMPOSITE MATERIALS CONTAINING KERATIN

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT BEFORE EXAMINATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This paper accompanies documents submitted to initiate national stage processing of the above-identified international patent application.

The claims of the international application were amended during international preliminary examination and the amendments were annexed to the International Preliminary Examination Report for the international application.

Before calculating the filing fee and before formal examination of the application on the merits, it is desired to amend the application in accordance with the following particulars.

**AMENDMENTS****ABSTRACT:**

An abstract is added below under the heading ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as annexed to the IPER in accordance with the following LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS, which indicates the status of all the claims in the application and all amendments to the claims. The list of claims is intended to show the status of all claims pending in the application, including any amendments thereto.